

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2-4, 6, 9-10, 19-23, and 25-33 were previously pending in the application. Claim 25 is canceled; and claims 19 and 27 are amended herein. Assuming the entry of this amendment, claims 2-4, 6, 9-10, 19-23, and 26-33 are now pending in the application. The Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and these remarks.

Claim Objections

In paragraph 1 of the final office action, the Examiner objected to claims 19, 2-4, 6, 9-10, 20-21, and 26-27 because of a lack of antecedent basis. The Examiner suggested that "non-conducting" in the second line from the bottom of claim 19 be changed to "non-conductive." Instead, since the term "non-conducting layer" appears in dependent claims 9, 26, and 27, the Applicant opted to change "non-conductive" in the third line from the bottom of claim 19 to "non-conducting." The Applicant submits that this amendment overcomes the lack of antecedent basis problem in claim 19.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. 112

In paragraph 3, the Examiner rejected claim 27 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In response, the Applicant has amended claim 27 as suggested by the Examiner, with the exception of reciting the term "non-conducting layer," instead of the term "non-conductive layer." As such, the Applicant submits that the rejection of claim 27 has been overcome.

Claim Rejection- 35 U.S.C. 103

In paragraph 6, the Examiner rejected claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baba in view of Stokes. Since claim 25 has been canceled, the Applicant submits that the rejection of that claim is moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

In paragraph 7, the Examiner indicated that claims 2-4, 6, 9-10, 19-23, 26-33 are allowable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant believes that the now-pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the Applicant believes that the entire application is now in condition for allowance, and early and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Fees

During the pendency of this application, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment of any filing fees for presentation of extra claims under 37 CFR 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17 or credit any overpayment to Mendelsohn & Associates, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-0782.

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to treat any concurrent or future reply, requiring a petition for extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 for its timely submission, as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time if not submitted with the reply.

Respectfully submitted,

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